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Dated: 12/15/03 Signature: Nancy DeRiggi
(Nancy DeRiggi)

Docket No.: 325772026410
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Junji MACHIDA et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned
[Divisional of 09/924,494 filed August 9, 2001]
Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Art Unit: N/A

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: DEVELOPING DEVICE AND IMAGE
FORMING APPARATUS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Customer Window, MS Non-Fee Amendment
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
2011 South Clark Place
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, Applicant respectfully requests entry on this Preliminary Amendment for the above-captioned patent application.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.